

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Montana Highway Patrol Division

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL PROGRAM CONTACTS

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MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY

The Montana Highway Patrol's mission responsibility is to safeguard the lives and property of the people using the highway traffic system of Montana through education, service, and enforcement.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THE MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL

The Montana Highway Patrol operates under Montana Code Annotated Title 44, Parts 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11.

44-1-101 thru 44-1-106; 44-1-201 thru 44-1-203; 44-1-301 thru 44-1-303; 44-1-401 thru 44-1-404; 44-1-501 thru 44-1-518; 44-1-601 thru 44-1-612; 44-1-701 thru 44-1-705; 44-1-801 thru 44-1-808; 44-1-901 thru 44-1-910; 44-1-1001 thru 44-1-1005; and 44-1-1101 thru 44-1-1103.

HOW SERVICES ARE PROVIDED

The Montana Highway Patrol is divided into two bureaus, the Field Forces Bureau and the Operations Bureau.

The **Operations Bureau** is responsible for budget, finance, information technology, crash records management, aircraft unit, fleet and supply functions, training, personnel and recruiting, and the dispatch communication center.

The **Field Forces Bureau** consists of uniformed troopers and command staff in the eight Highway Patrol districts. The district offices are located in Missoula, Great Falls, Butte, Billings, Glendive, Kalispell, Belgrade, and Havre.

District Area Responsibilities by County

District 1 Missoula	Mineral, Missoula, and Ravalli
District 2 Great Falls	Cascade, Fergus, Golden Valley, Judith Basin, Musselshell, Petroleum, Teton and Wheatland
District 3 Butte	Beaverhead, Deer Lodge, Granite, Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Powell, and Silver Bow
District 4 Billings	Big Horn, Carbon, Stillwater, Sweet Grass and Yellowstone
District 5 Glendive	Carter, Custer, Daniels, Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, McCone, Powder River, Prairie, Richland, Roosevelt, Rosebud, Sheridan, Treasure, Valley and Wibaux
District 6 Kalispell	Flathead, Lake, Lincoln and Sanders
District 7 Belgrade	Broadwater, Gallatin, Madison, Meagher and Park
District 8 Havre	Blaine, Chouteau, Glacier, Hill, Liberty, Phillips, Pondera and Toole

RESPONSE TO LFD ISSUES

- An update will be provided during the hearing for the division budget showing successful implementation of the concept that a patrol vehicle is the trooper's office. An update will also be done in early February 2009 with an onsite visit to our communications center. This visit will show how the implementation of this goal has modernized computer aided dispatch and has increased functionality and service.
- The goals listed on the division's website will match those submitted with the division budget. Goals completed in the 2009 biennium have been replaced with new goals that represent the goals for the 2011 biennium. These goals will be monitored in the interim by providing updated statistics to the division website every six months.
- The 2009 biennium goal of increased trooper availability will continue into the 2011 biennium. The achievement of implementing new technology has caused a drop in trooper availability in FY09. As The Highway Patrol becomes more familiar with the new system the percentage of trooper availability will increase. This goal will continue to be monitored in the interim by providing updated statistics to the division website every six months.
- The removal of the statutory appropriation for the Recruitment and Retention Fund (HB35) was requested in order to help alleviate the issues caused by keeping HB35 and HB2 funding sources for troopers salaries separate though both funds serve the same over all function; increasing troopers and salary increases. Revenues from this HB35 registration fee would continue to be used in the same manner but would be provided through the general appropriations act.
- Revenue growth in the Recruitment and Retention fund is not projected to remain solvent as expenditures will continue to catch up to revenue. The current projections show the fund no longer being able to sufficiently support expenditures by 2016. The Montana Highway Patrol is aware of these issues and currently discussing possible resolutions.

STRATEGIC GOALS

In order to meet the overarching goal of safer highways in Montana, a number of strategic goals must be reached. In order of priority, they are:

1. **Improve Traffic Safety** District and Detachment Commanders will define roadways in their geographic area of responsibility where they feel that the most impact can be made. Troopers will be encouraged to patrol these targeted roads to reduce fatal and injury crashes.
2. **Recruit, Retain, and Develop Quality Employees.** The men and women of the MHP are our greatest resource. Maintaining the field forces in a high level of readiness is critical to achieving operational goals. Hiring of well qualified civilian staff is also critical, as is proper training opportunities and pay for those positions.
3. **Improve Technologies to Increase Trooper Efficiency.** A 1979 Northwestern University study showed that Montana needed a minimum of 395 uniformed troopers to make Montana's roads as safe as possible. Resources are not available for manpower of that magnitude, so improved efficiency of the current and future field forces is necessary. This will be made possible through improved communication and IT technology.
4. **Interdict Criminal Activity.** Drug trafficking in the United States continues to increase. The interdiction of controlled substances, illegal contraband, and other criminal activity that threatens the safety and livelihood of our citizens is a priority for members of the patrol.
5. **Efficiently Acquire and Deploy Resources.** The command staff of the patrol, in concert with line personnel will continuously review the mission of the patrol and will work to seek necessary resources to help the patrol reach its goals.

HIGHWAY PATROL DIVISION BENCHMARKS

	1/07 - 6/07	7/07 - 12/07	1/08 - 6/08	7/08 - 12/08
Improve traffic safety through enforcement of restraint laws				
Seatbelt tickets and warnings issued	8,171	5,505	8,019	12,710
Recruit, retain, and develop quality employees *				
Personnel Hired (Uniformed/Civilian)				40/25
Use technology to increase trooper efficiency				
Trooper Availability %	15	27	39	35.4
Interdict Criminal Activity*				
Felony Arrests / Drug Seizures by Appraised \$ Amount				24 / \$111,857
Efficiently Acquire and Deploy Resources*				
Average Response Time (minutes)				19.84

*New benchmark as of 1/2009

WHAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE

Goal 1 - The statewide traffic fatality count dropped by almost 18 percent in 2008, with corresponding reductions in the overall crash picture. This was due to a variety of factors, one of them being improved enforcement in targeted crash zones statewide.

Goal 2 - The MHP hired and trained 18 new troopers in 2008, and also hired and trained a number of new dispatchers. Using innovative recruitment and training methods, our workforce satisfaction is very high. More specific information is provided under "2009 Program Expansion and FTE."

Goal 3 - The MHP has made major strides in completing a technology and business process upgrade in 2008, and is looking forward to measuring the results as a function of improved trooper availability.

Goal 4 - In 2008, there was a single seizure of ecstasy in eastern Montana that had a street value of over six million dollars. The trafficking of illegal substances and cash through Montana has been disrupted due to efforts such as those of our Trooper of the year, Glenn Quinell, who made that ecstasy seizure.

Goal 5 - The MHP makes good use of taxpayer's money. With the exception of fuel for our fleet of vehicles, funding provided by the legislature last session was adequate to reach success in all strategic goals.

Challenges

Challenges as far as greater success for goals one and four continue to be manpower based. While we anticipate increased efficiency and availability for call from our technology upgrade, there are still far too many miles between troopers in certain areas of the state.

The Montana Highway Patrol continues to work towards safer roads, hiring quality personnel, disrupting the flow of illegal substances through our state, and deploying state resources in an efficient and effective manner.

2009 BIENNIUM PROGRAM EXPANSION AND FTE

House Bill 35 Troopers

The 2005 legislature through HB 35 approved the hiring of up to 80 new positions over the next four to eight years depending on fund balance and collections. For the 2009 biennium 11 new FTE were hired to be funded with HB 35 collections. MHP has found that of the 20 new FTE received in the 2007 biennium the fund balance is currently only able to support 17 positions. The remaining fund balances are obligated to funding salary increases for troopers.

Communication Center Dispatchers

The Montana Highway Patrol received an additional 5.00 FTE for communication system operators (dispatchers) for its statewide communication dispatch center in Helena. The center provides services not only for the Highway Patrol, but also for the Governor's Office, the Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Military Affairs, Disaster and Emergency Services, and some other smaller agencies. This communication center becomes the statewide dispatch center in the case of a declared state emergency. The Montana Highway Patrol has been successful in hiring for all of the additional FTE received. The table to the right includes 20 dispatchers hired during the 2009 biennium however many of the positions represent turnover. Though there is always turnover involved with these positions the additional funding has provided more consistency in having a fully staffed communications center.

2009 Biennium Hires		
Position #	FTE	Hire Date
21450	1.0	7/2/2007
21020	1.0	7/2/2007
31307	1.0	7/2/2007
21021	1.0	7/2/2007
21611	1.0	7/9/2007
21454	1.0	7/16/2007
21003	1.0	7/16/2007
21002	1.0	7/23/2007
11738	1.0	8/27/2007
13710	1.0	9/6/2007
13714	1.0	9/6/2007
13716	1.0	9/6/2007
14264	1.0	9/6/2007
13715	1.0	9/6/2007
13712	1.0	9/6/2007
13708	1.0	9/6/2007
13610	1.0	9/6/2007
13713	1.0	9/6/2007
13717	1.0	9/6/2007
13709	1.0	9/6/2007
13711	1.0	9/6/2007
31306	1.0	9/10/2007
21005	1.0	11/8/2007
21006	1.0	11/19/2007
13062	1.0	11/24/2007
13151	1.0	12/7/2007
13453	1.0	12/7/2007
14257	1.0	12/7/2007
13141	1.0	12/7/2007
13196	1.0	12/7/2007
14261	1.0	12/7/2007
13125	1.0	12/7/2007
13229	1.0	12/7/2007
13243	1.0	12/7/2007
13171	1.0	2/4/2008
21450	1.0	4/28/2008
21020	1.0	4/28/2008
21455	1.0	5/5/2008
21453	1.0	6/2/2008
21008	1.0	7/7/2008
21556	1.0	7/23/2008
21022	1.0	8/4/2008
21005	1.0	8/11/2008
21020	1.0	9/15/2008
11738	1.0	9/15/2008
21555	1.0	9/18/2008
21012	1.0	9/29/2008
21004	1.0	9/29/2008
13143	1.0	11/13/2008
13453	1.0	11/13/2008
13147	1.0	11/13/2008
13248	1.0	11/13/2008
13131	1.0	11/13/2008
13175	1.0	11/13/2008
13246	1.0	11/13/2008
13451	1.0	11/13/2008
13178	1.0	11/13/2008
13149	1.0	11/13/2008
13718	1.0	11/13/2008
13241	1.0	11/13/2008
13134	1.0	11/13/2008
13152	1.0	11/13/2008
14259	1.0	11/13/2008
13205	1.0	11/13/2008
13141	1.0	11/13/2008
13236	1.0	11/13/2008

REVIEW OF DECISION PACKAGES

1. Fixed cost for Workers Compensation Management Program

The Workers Compensation Management Program at the Department of Administration was funded by the 2007 Legislature with a one-time only general fund appropriation. For the 2011 biennium and beyond, the program will be funded by a fixed cost allocation. Because the program was approved as a one-time only for the current biennium, it has been presented as a new proposal for the next biennium. The budget includes \$8,704 in FY2010 and \$7,547 in FY2011 of state special revenue authority for the Highway Patrol Division allocation of the fixed cost. This request will assist in achieving Strategic Goal 5.

2. Provide Overtime Pay for the Executive Protection

The Executive Protection Program of the Montana Highway Patrol requires additional funding for overtime costs in order to continue running efficiently and effectively. The current budget does not adequately support all the overtime costs incurred by those working to provide protection for the Governor on a full-time basis. The budget requested includes \$80,000 in FY2010 and \$80,000 in FY2011 of general fund authority for the Highway Patrol Division. This request will assist in achieving Strategic Goal 2.

3. Non - DOA Building Rent Increases

The operations budget that provides funding for rent of all Montana Highway Patrol buildings and towers requires an increase to support current lease rates and increases during the 2011 biennium. The budget requested includes \$40,000 in FY2010 and \$50,000 in FY2011 of state special revenue authority for the Highway Patrol Division. This request will assist in achieving Strategic Goal 5.

4. Fuel Inflation Reduction

The operations budget that provides funding for fuel needed to support the vehicle fleet requires an increase to cover increased fuel prices. The budget requested reflects a decreased inflation rate from what was originally requested. The budget requested includes \$225,089 in FY2010 and \$191,852 in FY2011 of state special revenue authority for the Highway Patrol Division. This request will assist in achieving Strategic Goal 5.

BUDGET

The budget for the Department of Justice, Montana Highway Patrol Division is included in the Legislative Fiscal Division Budget Analysis, Volume 6, D-82.

Department of Justice
Decision Packages Included in 2011 Biennium Dec. 15, 2008 Governor's Budget
and Attorney General Elected Official Decision Package Requests

Program	PL, NP, or EOR	Decision Package #	Package	Total Funds		General Fund		FTE		Total \$ Biennial	Department Goal	Division Goal	Division Objective	Measurement	Timeline
				FY 10	FY 11	GF FY10	GF FY11	FTE 10	FTE 11						
Montana Highway Patrol-13															
Montana Highway Patrol-Present Law Adjustments															
Highway Patrol Division-13	PL	DP 1304 PL	Provide Overtime Pay for the Executive Protection Program	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000				\$160,000	Goal 1	Recruit, Retain, and Develop Quality Employees.	Continue Executive Protection	Cost of Overtime Incurred.	Track through the 2011 Biennium and report in 2011 biennial report
Highway Patrol Division-13	PL	DP 1308 PL	Non -DOA Building Rent Increases **	\$40,000	\$50,000					\$90,000	Goal 1 & 2	Efficiently Acquire and Deploy Resources.	Maintain Effective Division Operations	n/a	Track through the 2011 Biennium and report in 2011 biennial report
Highway Patrol Division-13	PL	DP 7101 PL	Fuel Reduction	-\$224,911	-\$258,148					-\$483,059		Efficiently Acquire and Deploy Resources.	Eliminate Statewide Present Law Adjustment for fuel cost increases.	Efficient use of fuel within budget limits.	2011 Biennium
Total Montana Highway Patrol-Present Law Adjustments				-\$104,911	-\$128,148	\$80,000	\$80,000	0.00	0.00	-\$233,059					
Montana Highway Patrol-New Proposals															
Highway Patrol Division-13	NP	DP 6101	Fixed cost for Workers Compensation Management Program	\$8,704	\$7,547					\$16,251		Efficiently Acquire and Deploy Resources.	Eliminate on-the-job injuries and accidents.	Number of workers compensation claims.	Track through the 2011 Biennium and report status in 2011 biennial report
Total Montana Highway Patrol-New Proposals				\$8,704	\$7,547	\$0	\$0	0.00	0.00	\$16,251					
Summary Montana Highway Patrol-13				-\$96,207	-\$120,601	\$80,000	\$80,000	0.00	0.00	-\$216,808					
MHP Non-DOA Building Rent decreased down from \$250,000 per year in SSR.															

** MHP Non-DOA Building Rent decreased down from \$250,000 per year in SSR.